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**PATENT**

**P-4537D1**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: David E. Lawrence

Art Unit: 2857

Serial No.: Divisional of  
09/397,357

Examiner: Miller, Craig S.

Filing Date: September 15, 1999

For: **SYSTEMS, METHODS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR  
CONSTRUCTING SAMPLING PLANS FOR ITEMS THAT ARE  
MANUFACTURED**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Before the above-identified divisional application is taken up for examination, entry of the following amendment is respectfully requested.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please **cancel** Claims 1-10, 20-27 and 35-42 without prejudice.

**IN THE SPECIFICATON**

At page 4, line 18 to page 5, line 21 please replace the section "Brief Description of the Drawings" with the following:

**--Brief Description of the Drawings**

Figure 1 is a simplified block diagram of systems, methods and computer program products for constructing sampling plans for items that are manufactured according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is a flowchart illustrating operations for calculating a required sample size according to the present invention.

Figure 3 is a flowchart illustrating operations for determining a bias-corrected percentile grid according to the present invention.